

REMARKS

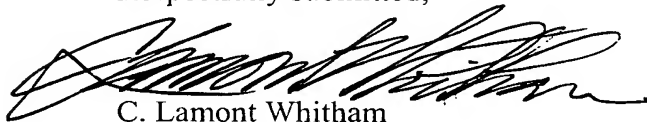
The acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and the receipt of the priority document is in the parent application Serial No. 09/708,516 is requested.

The specification has been reviewed and corrections of a minor nature have been made by this amendment to better place the application in condition for allowance. The amendments to the specification include an amendment to the title of the invention which is descriptive of the invention claimed in this application.

Claims 1 to 8 appear in the application. Independent claim 1 has been amended to better emphasize the patentable novelty of the invention. In addition, claims 4, 5, 6, and 7 have been amended to correct minor errors. As amended, it is believed that the claims clearly define over the prior art and are in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1 to 8 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Lamont Whitham', is written over the typed name.

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